

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

ROBERT LEE EDWARDS,

Plaintiff,

vs.

DR. SHEPHARD,

Defendant.

2:11-cv-175-JMS-WGH

**Entry Discussing Request to Proceed on Appeal *In Forma Pauperis***

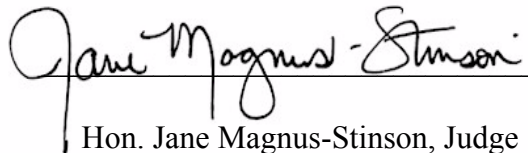
The plaintiff seeks leave to proceed on appeal without prepayment of the appellate fees of \$455.00. An appeal may not be taken *in forma pauperis* if the trial court certifies that the appeal is not taken in good faith. 28 U.S.C. § 1915; see *Coppedge v. United States*, 369 U.S. 438 (1962). “Good faith” within the meaning of § 1915 must be judged by an objective, not a subjective, standard. See *id.* There is no objectively reasonable argument the plaintiff could present to argue that the disposition of this action was erroneous. In pursuing an appeal, therefore, the plaintiff “is acting in bad faith . . . [because] to sue in bad faith means merely to sue on the basis of a frivolous claim, which is to say a claim that no reasonable person could suppose to have any merit.” *Lee v. Clinton*, 209 F.3d 1025, 1026 (7th Cir. 2000). Accordingly, his appeal is not taken in good faith, and for this reason his requests for leave to proceed on appeal *in forma pauperis* [12, 13] are **denied**.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

Date: 09/22/2011

Distribution:

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Hon. Jane Magnus-Stinson, Judge  
United States District Court  
Southern District of Indiana